

§ 169.669

to the battery, that opens all ungrounded conductors.

(j) If a storage battery is not in the same compartment and adjacent to the panel or box that distributes power to the various lighting, motor and appliance branch circuits, the storage battery lead must be fused at the battery.

§ 169.669 Radiotelephone equipment.

A separate circuit from the switchboard must be provided for each radiotelephone installation.

§ 169.670 Circuit breakers.

Each circuit breaker must be of the manually reset type designed for—

- (a) Inverse time delay;
- (b) Instantaneous short circuit protection; and
- (c) Repeated opening of the circuit without damage to the circuit breaker.

§ 169.671 Accessories.

Each light, receptacle and switch exposed to the weather must be watertight and must be constructed of corrosion-resistant material.

§ 169.672 Wiring for power and lighting circuits.

(a) Wiring for power and lighting circuits must have copper conductors, of 14 AWG or larger, and—

- (1) Meet Article 310-8 and Table 310-13 of the National Electrical Code;
- (2) Be listed as "50 volt boat cable"; or

(3) Meet subpart 111.60 of this chapter.

(b) Wiring for power and lighting circuits on new vessels must have stranded conductors.

(c) Conductors must be sized so that—

- (1) They are adequate for the loads carried; and
- (2) The voltage drop at the load terminals is not more than 10 percent.

§ 169.673 Installation of wiring for power and lighting circuits.

(a) Wiring must be run as high as practicable above the bilges.

(b) Wiring, where subject to mechanical damage, must be protected.

(c) A wiring joint or splice must be mechanically secure and made in a junction box or enclosure.

46 CFR Ch. I (10-1-03 Edition)

(d) Unless a splice is made by an insulated pressure wire connector, it must be thoroughly soldered and taped with electrical insulating tape or the soldered joint must be otherwise protected to provide insulation equivalent to that of the conductors joined.

(e) Where ends of stranded conductors are to be clamped under terminal screws, they must be formed and soldered unless fitted with pressure terminal connectors.

(f) Conductors must be protected from overcurrent in accordance with their current-carrying capacities.

(g) Conductors supplying motors and motor operated appliances must be protected by a separate overcurrent device that is responsive to motor current. This device must be rated or set at not more than 125 percent of the motor full-load current rating.

(h) On metallic vessels the enclosures and frames of all major electrical equipment must be permanently grounded to the metal hull of the vessel by the mounting bolts or other means. Cable armor must not be used as the normal grounding means.

(i) On nonmetallic vessels, the enclosures and frames of major electrical equipment must be bonded together to a common ground by a normally non-current carrying conductor.

(j) For grounded systems the negative polarity of the supply source must be grounded to the metal hull or, for nonmetallic vessels, connected to the common ground.

(k) On a nonmetallic vessel, where a ground plate is provided for radio equipment it must be connected to the common ground.

(l) For grounded systems, hull return must not be used except for engine starting purposes.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OPERATING AT POTENTIALS OF 50 VOLTS OR MORE ON VESSELS OF LESS THAN 100 GROSS TONS

§ 169.674 Applicability.

The requirements in this subpart apply to electrical installations operating at potentials of 50 volts or more, on vessels of less than 100 gross tons.